minority concentration districts have been identified, on the basis of 2001 census data relating to population, availability of basic amenities, literacy and work participation rates. A provision of Rs.120 crore has been made for the year 2007-08 for a multi-sectoral development programme for these districts.

Inclusion of Nepali speaking people as linguistic minority

1602. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sects that have been included under the linguistic minorities;

(b) the details of the linguistic minorities, State-wise;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to include the Nepali speaking people in the list of linguistic minorities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) State-wise details of linguistic minorities are available in the 43rd Report (July, 2004 - June, 2005) of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities already tabled in the House on 27-11-2006. This is also available on the website *www.nclm.nic.in.*

(c) to (e) State Governments/Union Territory Administrations identify linguistic minorities in their respective States. Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities has reported that, on the basis of inputs received from various State Governments and Census records, Nepali is spoken in the State of Assam, West Bengal (major language in Darjeeling District), Sikkim (regional language), Manipur, Meghalaya and Mizoram.

Grants to Maulana Azad Foundation

1603. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grants given to the Maulana Azad Foundation during the last three years; and

(b) in what manner it is being utilized?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) Government provides assistance towards the corpus fund of Maulana Azad Education Foundation. Funds released towards the corpus fund during the last three years are as under:

2004-05	–	nil
2005-06	–	Rs.29.99 crores
2006-07	–	Rs.100.00 crores